

FIG. 1

embed one or more links in the first portion referencing one or more external documents viewable using a viewer application (180)
embed one or more links in the third portion referencing information contained in the second portion (190)

FIG. 2A

Get images of pages of document (202)
OCR the pages of the documents and associate the text with corresponding image location on the page image (204)
Identify references to external documents in a first portion of the document (206)
Associate a link to each reference to external documents (208)
Parse text in a third portion for noun phrases (210)
Cross-reference each discussion of each parsed noun phrase in a second portion of the document (212)
Link the noun phrase to the cross-referenced discussion (214)
Retrieve file history of document (216)
Cross-reference each mentioning of each parsed noun phrase in the file history(218)
Link the noun phrase to each reference in the file history (220)
Retrieve each document mentioned in the first portion of the document (222)
Cross-reference each mentioning of each parsed noun phrase or equivalent in the document referenced in the first portion (224)
Link the noun phrase to each relevant mentioning in the document (226)
Perform a database search for additional documents and retrieve each located document (228)
Cross-reference each mentioning of each parsed noun phrase or equivalent in the located document (230)
Link the noun phrase to each relevant mentioning in the located document (232)

FIG.2B

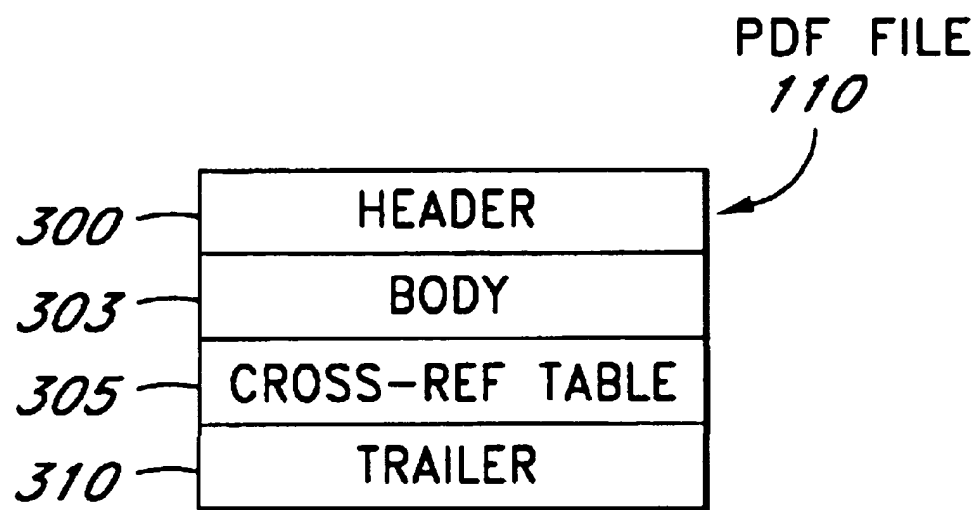


FIG.3

Locate citations to the prior art using data from the file history (402)
Extracts comparisons of the claim language to one or more prior art references (404)
Optionally perform a database search, locate relevant prior art ; locate description section relevant to the claim and map the prior art to the claim (406)
Annotate the document in the drawings or claims, for example (408)

FIG.4